THE SUN, New York City. Paris Klosque No. 13, near Grand Hotel, and Hosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines.

If our friends who favor us with manuscript publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

The Log House of Medora.

The Hon. JOHN BRITT of Medora, N. D., has made to the managers of the St. Louis world's fair a suggestion which everybody who means to go to that show will heartily approve. Mr. BRITT knows with what affection and veneration Old TIPPECANOB's log cabin, the log cabin in which LINCOLN was born and the log cabin built by Gen. GRANT were regarded by Americans. Would not a house in which Mr. ROOSEVELT used to live be an object of interest to millions? Although Mr. ROOSEVELT did not have the good fortune to be born in a log cabin, the old log house on the ranch which he owned, near Medora, still stands, in an excellent state of preservation. "I can get it if I want it," Mr. BRITT writes, "and if you think it will be an attraction at the fair. I can get it and ship it."

There can be no doubt of the answer of the managers. Pecuniary as well as patriotic considerations will make them glad to accept the offer so modestly made. There would be nothing political in the exhibition. The log house would be a monument, not a campaign document; and even the delegates to the Democratic national convention could visit that house with pleasure. Whatever they think of Mr. ROOSEVELT in the Supreme Court exclusively. White House, Mr. ROOSEVELT in the log house will not be objectionable to them.

But a building so interesting is out of place in private hands. It should be held by an association pledged to maintain it in good condition and give the public free access to it. To charge a fee for admission to it might be resented as a piece of commercialism.

Climate in the Philippines.

Secretary TAFT has suggested that the newspapers can "help the American Government in the Philippines by denying the lies circulated about the terrible climate there." In this good work we gladly offer our cooperation. The climate of the Philippines is not

at all terrible. Many people live there all the year around. As a climate, the Philippine article has much to recommend it. The resident or the visitor has no uneasiness regarding his raiment. He does not go to business in a linen "duster" and curse himself on his way home for not having carried an ulster. In its reliability the Philippine climate is endlessly the superior of our American comfortable or unwholesome conditions. lived to a ripe old age.

depends primarily upon the resident, upon his ability and readiness to adjust | GRAY BEAR and LAST BEAR. himself and his habits to his environment. The same law holds in New York city with equal force. In no place in Wyoming or Montana, and explained on earth may nature's laws be violated the game laws of those States to them. or ignored with impunity. Due obedience to those laws, in the Philippines or elsewhere, will insure a corresponding degree of health, comfort and longevity. Those to whom hot weather brings real physical suffering, and there are such, will do well to avoid the tropics or the edge of them. But there are many who find cold weather a cause of suffering and who find real delight in a mean temperature of 85 degrees. The question of heat and cold is largely a matter of individual preference.

So far as salubrity is concerned, Secretary TAFT is entirely right and justified in decrying any attempt to malign the climate of our Philippine possessions. Those who have the desire to particihate in the economic development of and sent under guard to Newcastle. the islands may go there entirely fearless of any climatic terrors, providing until Nov. 4, when Mr. BRENNAN prothey will carry with them a modicum of common sense.

Proposed Legislation Concerning the Courts.

Mr. NATHANIEL A. ELSBERG of the Fifteenth Senate district has introduced in the Legislature eight bills and three concurrent resolutions to amend the State Constitution in matters relative to the courts.

Several of the bills are of doubtful constitutionality and all of the proposed | met and united in the herb hunt. There constitutional amendments are of doubtful wisdom.

One proposed constitutional amendment provides that Supreme Court Justices shall be elected only in odd-numimportant end to be attained by this

Another proposes that "the Legislatture may at any time when it deems crease the number of Justices of the Supreme Court or of Judges of the Court the number of Justices or Judges as their reservation. They covered twentyaforesaid shall receive the assent of two- five miles before camping. thirds of the members elected to each branch; of the Legislature." This is a bringing its number up to thirteen armed radical departure from the policy which | men. At 5 o'clock on Oct. 31 the Inhas long prevailed in this State, with the dians reached Lightning Creek, forty-five mortgages. This year's tax amounts to sanction of all political parties, in refer- miles nearer their reservation than they | 371/2 per cent. of the income from a 4 per ence to the number of Judges in our were when they saw Sheriff MILLER for cent. mortgage. It is a burden which fore been fixed by a vote of the people, in | posse had got to the creek first, and were | and which many private lenders decline the Constitution itself, and not left to the stationed across the trail. The Sheriff to evade dishonestly. The tax conse-

discretion-or possibly the whim or caprice of the Legislature. We do not approve of the change, although we are aware that it is recommended by the Commission on the Law's Delays, which recently sat in this city.

The third of the proposed amendments questions of law only may take his case either directly to the Court of Appeals or to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, but shall not be entitled to a review in both courts. In other words, he may choose his appellate tribunal, but the decision there shall be final. The objection to this project is that almost all litigants will prefer the Court of Appeals, as the higher tribunal in rank, and that court will be swamped with work. Under the Constitution as it now exists the Legislature possesses sufficient power to limit the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals, if that course is deemed advisable, without resorting to

any constitutional amendment. The most important of the bills introduced by Senator ELSBERG is one providing for the appointment of a body of official referees in New York and Kings counties, from among whom the courts shall be required to select all referees and all commissioners of appraisal and assessment in proceedings to acquire private property for public use. These officers are to be appointed by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for a term of ten years at a salary of \$10,000 a year, and they are to be allowed to try cases with a jury where the liti-

the court in which the case is pending. We venture to suggest a doubt as to the power of the Legislature to enact this measure into a law without an amendment to the Constitution. In its main features and many of its details it seems designed to lessen and impair the "general jurisdiction in law and equity" which that instrument has conferred upon the

Another bill asks for an addition of four Justices to the City Court of New York, while still another prohibits campaign contributions by candidates for judicial office and makes it a crime to the Government. The whites of Weston solicit or receive such contributions. except that a judicial candidate is permitted to expend a sum not exceeding \$300 "for lawful expenses incurred by In his report Mr. McNichols said: him" in connection with his election or appointment. This measure is commendable in purpose, but we see no occasion for the exception.

A concise but careful report on these schemes of court reform by a qualified committee of the New York City Bar Association would be helpful to intelligent action upon them by the Legislature. We are confident that it would insure the defeat of some of the projects.

The Sloux and the Sheriff.

In the latter part of September JOHN R. BRENNAN, United States Indian Agent at the Pine Ridge Agency, issued a permit good for sixty days to WILLIAM Brown, a Sioux Indian, to take a party of Indians to the Black Hills to gather brand. The absence of snow and frost | medicinal herbs, roots and berries. In is not necessarily a proof of either un- October another permit for the same sort of an excursion was issued by Mr. On the contrary, from time immemorial | BRENNAN to CHARLEY SMITH. Among to lose. They had chosen their ground. As the the great majority of world dwellers the Indians in WILLIAM BROWN'S party approved statement of the Newcastle Times says: have been resident in either tropical or | were HE CROW, IRON SHIELD, a medisub-tropical regions, and many have cine man, WHITE ELK, RED PAINT, approaching conflict. Had the Indians made any DAVID BROKEN NOSE, BLACK KETTLE, Health in the Philippines, in Cuba, in | FOOL HEART, HIGH DOG, CHIEF EAGLE, Porto Rico and in all other similar re- CHARGING WOLF and JESSE LITTLE WAR gions, barring those having vast areas | BONNET. In CHARLEY SMITH'S party of low-lying and miasmatic marsh lands, were HOPE CLEAR, the eighteen-yearold daughter of Chief GRAY BEAR, Mrs.

> Mr. BRENNAN made a special point of cautioning the Indians against hunting CHARLEY SMITH had been a student at Carlisle, and understood English well. On Oct. 20 or 22 a party of white men. who had been hunting in Weston county, Wyo., reported at Newcastle that several bands of Indians were killing game and cattle in the southern part of the county and in Converse county. No stockman had complained of Indian depredations, but the hunters' story was so explicit that Sheriff MILLER of Weston county swore out warrants for the arrest of JOHN DOE and RICHARD Roe, organized a posse of six and started in pursuit of the Indians on Oct. 23. At the mouth of Lance Creek on Oct. 25 the posse came upon a camp of nine Indians. whom they disarmed without opposition These Indians were kept in captivity cured their release, showing that they were old men and women who were returning to the reservation after a visit to some friends in another part of the country.

Sheriff MILLER and his posse then continued their search for the maurading Indians, and on Oct. 30 he came upon their camp, near the Dry Fork of the Cheyenne River. This camp was occunied by the combined parties of CHARLEY SMITH and WILLIAM BROWN, which had were sixteen bucks and fifteen wagons and about twenty squaws and children. Sheriff MILLER, with seven men in his posse, informed the Indians, selecting rates comprise only 42 per cent. of the CHARLEY SMITH as their leader, that he bered years. We fail to perceive any had come to arrest them for illegal hunting. The Indian denied that he had been hunting, and refused to allow himself or the party with him to be arrested. Sheriff MILLER's force was too small to that the public interest requires it in- cope with the Indians, and so he and his deputies ate a supper prepared by WILLIAM BROWN'S wife. Another effort of Appeals as it sees fit, provided that was made to have the Indians submit the total number of the Judges of the and go to Newcastle, but it was fruit-Court of Appeals shall not exceed eleven, less. After supper the Indians broke district centring at Fifth avenue and and provided also that any bill increasing camp and continued on the trail toward

Sheriff MILLER strengthened his posse. higher courts. The number has hereto- the first time. Sheriff MILLER and his cannot be evaded by trustees of estates

demanded that the Indiana halt. The members of the posse declare that the Indians immediately made a hostile demonstration. The Indians say that the Sheriff's men fired on them. At any rate, there was a four-minute encounter, in which Sheriff MILLER and one deputy to the State Constitution is designed to and four Indians were killed, and an change the existing system of appeals Indian buck and squaw wounded. The so that a defeated party who appeals on | squaw died later. This is LAST BEAR'S

story of the fight: "My little boy was on a horse. I told him to get off and get into the wagon with his mother and let me have the horse. Just as I got on I was shot through the back, the ball coming out in front. I then turned around and went west. I hold up my hand to the Great Father and say that I did not see any Indian shoot. Our guns were packed away i the wagons. I did not have anything to shoot with We had no game except small game-rabbits and prairie chickens. We had some mutton; had traded with sheep men several times, giving them bead work, blankets, &c., for mutton. In going out my wife traded a blanket at Hot Springs to a butcher for the offal of a beef: that was all the cattle meawe had on the trip; that is, that my party had.

"A short time before the trouble began CHARLEY SMITH had rode off over the hill after rabbits. [In the excitement he does not remember when CHARLES SMITH came back, or whether he got back before the shooting began.]

"Three days after we was coming down Hat Creek; there was a little town there. We went around the town, but somebody fired three shots

at us." LAST BEAR'S wife was told that he had been killed. Her statement of what happened then is not uninteresting:

"After my husband got on the horse I started back. After we had gone aways they told me my man had been shot. I sang a death song and started back. The Indians said it was no use for me to go on. The little boy kept crying and wanted to go gants consent, being vested, when so get his grandfather. So we went back and found doing, with all the powers of a Judge of him and got him in the wagon. I was all right until I got home, and since then I have been sick and trembling."

Some days later a number of the Indians who had been in the fight were arrested near Edgemont, S.D. They were taken to Douglas, Wyo., and on Nov. 14, after a hearing on the charge of murder, they were dismissed from custody on motion of United States District Attorney TIMOTHY F. BURKE, who appeared in their defence, without being called to testify.

This affair was investigated by CHARLES S. McNichols, Special Indian Agent, for and Converse counties, including Congressman Mondell, were very bitter against the Indians and Mr. BRENNAN.

"Certainly, from the position of the Indians scattered along the highway-they were not expecting a battle, and only a small part of their band were yet in the immediate scene of the conflict when it began. Hence if the Indians were expecting and had prepared for a conflict, it would seem very unlikely that one of their number would precipitate it when their party was so scattered. The whites were in a compact mass, drawn up in line behind a natural breastwork, while the Indian train was scattered for a quarter of a mile, with women and children in the wagons to which they belonged, all along the line. All reason and common sense is against the theory that the Indians began the

"The Sheriff's posse was no Sunday school class. Cowboys and bartenders predominated in the make up of the white party. Several of them were entire strangers to the original party. Sheriff MILLER did not know whether they were men of coolness, judgment and steady character. Their recommendation was that they had guns and were willing to join the party. They had no wives and bables with them. They were a compact body. They had no wagons or other property with them such preparations? • • •

"The whole affair is very deplorable, but I cannot feel but what small blame should be attached to the Indians. It is probable that had SMITH not refused to go with the posse to Newcastle, bloodshed might have been avoided; but discretion and tact on the part of the white posse would undoubtedly have saved all trouble and bloodshed."

As to the cause of this "very deplorable" affair-alleged illegal hunting by the Indians—the Indian understanding was expressed by Chief Blue Horse to Mr. McNichols, who reports him in

"I had a talk with Chief BLUE Horse, who claims that he was one of the signers of the Treaty of 1868 and the way he understood the treaty was that the Indian would be allowed to hunt anywhere game could be found as long as he existed as a race. The talk was that in a hundred years the Indians would become as the white men, tillers of the soil, and would no longer care to hunt, and that the buffalo would surely remain as long as that time. He did not understand that the Indian was to relinquish anything in that treaty or any other treaty in the way of rights to hunt."

Perhaps it would be more in keeping with the facts of this outbreak to call it a white man's uprising rather than an Indian outrage.

The Mortgage Tax and Realty Loans.

In view of the great expansion in bank loans which has taken place in the last five weeks, the mortgage statistics for January make an interesting exhibit. They show that the amount of money lent on real estate in Manhattan was only \$15,700,000, as against \$31,400,000 in January, 1903. The contraction was confined entirely to mortgages producing less

than 5 per cent. In recent years 41/2 and 4 per cent. have been the prevailing rates of interest for well secured loans on Manhattan realty. A year ago 67 per cent. of the mortgage indebtedness recorded in January bore interest at 41/2 and 4 per cent. In the current year, however, the loans at these total indebtedness. The amount of 4 per cent. money was insignificant, having

declined from \$9,300,000 to \$2,700,000. The rise in the average rate of interest reflected by these figures has of course affected trading in real estate. The leading realty corporations, which deal exclusively in high price property, have all but withdrawn from the market. An occasional purchase is made by mercantile houses, chiefly in the new shopping Thirty-fourth street. But the only sustained and well defined activity is to be found in the tenement districts affected

by the great Jewish immigration. One of the reasons for the scarcity of money at the present time is the tax on

quently tends to concentrate lending use like liberality toward both the liberal into the hands of a few moneyed insti- and the Calvinistic parties, each of which tutions, notably life insurance and title must recognize that in order to get a free guarantee companies.

The business of the life insurance companies requires an average return of more than 4 or 416 per cent. from their investments. It is consequently chiefly surplus funds, funds which would otherwise lie idle, that they put out on realty. Mortgages negotiated by the title guarantee companies are sold to the public. A large proportion of them is taken by banks and other moneyed corporations, out of town as well as local. Purchases by institutions of this kind also represent

largely investments of surplus funds. The result is that the mortgage loan market is to an undue extent dependent on institutions whose business capital is normally, or at any rate principally, employed elsewhere. When an unusual demand for money arises in the general oan market, these institutions practically retire from the mortgage loan branch.

If the mortgage tax were removed, a huge body of wealth controlled by estates and private capitalists would seek employment in realty loans. To such capital 41/2 and 4 per cent. would be attractive, because of the safety of the investment and the small cost of administration involved. Meantime, the presence of this huge body of wealth would be a steadying influence, preventing the sharp fluctuations in the volume of loanable capital to which the mortgage loan market is now subject.

Senator Dietrich's Case.

On Feb. 1 Senator CHARLES H. DIE-TRICH of Nebraska offered the following resolution:

" Resolved, That the president pro tempore shall appoint a committee of five to investigate and report to the Senate all the facts connected with the ppointment of JACOB FISHER as postmaster at Hastings, Neb., and the leasing of the building used at this time for a post office in that city, and particularly to investigate and report as to the action of CHARLES H. DIETRICH, a Senator from Nebraska, in connection with such appointment and leasing."

Mr. DIETRICH was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury in Omaha, charged with receiving a bribe while a member of the United States Senate, from FISHER for procuring for him the appointment as postmaster at Omaha. His prosecution was conducted under Section 178 of the Revised Statutes. The trial was brought to an end in the United States Circuit Court by Judge VAN DEVANTER, who ruled that as DIETRICH had not qualified as a Senator at the time of the alleged corrupt bargain he was not liable to punishment under the statute, even though the allegations were true. The United States District Attorney moved the dismissal of the indictments against Mr. DIETRICH, and he was set free.

The resolution offered in the Senate by DIETRICH was adopted, and the investigation is now under way. It is his belief that he can clear himself of the charges made against him; but what will happen if the Senate committee is convinced that he was guilty as charged? Will the Senate expel Senator DIE-

TRICH for corrupt practices engaged in after his election, but previously to his qualification as a member? Will Senator DIETRICH be publicly

reprimanded in the Senate chamber if he is proved to have done wrong? Will Senator DIETRICH be requested to resign from the Senate if it is proved that he accepted a bribe from

date for a Federal office? Or will the Senate warn him, having found him guilty, to behave in the future? Will it attempt by loving kindness and worthy example to wean him from evil courses?

Mr. Bryan and Mr. Carnegie.

Mr. BRYAN, as becomes a blossoming plutocrat, begins to emulate Mr. CAR-NEGIE. He is to erect and give to Salem, Ill., the city of his birth, a library building to cost \$25,000. Then he is to provide and install a library at a cost of \$15,000. It may be doubted if that is not too much money to spend upon the books in a \$25,000 building. Whether the sum be disproportionate or not, it testifies to the donor's breadth of view and enlightened generosity. The race between Mr. CAR-NEGIE and Mr. BRYAN will be watched with thrilling excitement by all the admirers of philanthropy.

Mr. CARNEGIE may have more money. but Mr. BRYAN has more youth, a profitable pen and voice and great testamentary expectations. Mr. CARNEGIE is trying to give away his money while he is living. Mr. BRYAN collects the money from the dead to give away. The conditions are less unequal than they seem.

Bishop Greer and Dr. Briggs.

Bishop GREER tells the Tribune that no charges have been preferred against Dr. Briggs because of opinions expressed in his recent paper, and that he sees no likelihood of any being made.

This has been quite obvious from the beginning. To bring Dr. BRIGGS to trial, Episcopal authority would have to be invoked by accusing fellow Episcopal clergymen, and no wise presbyter of any school would invite such an inquiry and the disturbing controversy which would be consequent on it.

Dr. Briggs used no argument and ex-

pressed no opinion in his paper which has not been used, or at least implied, in the utterances of many Anglicans from the time of the establishment of the Church of England up to the present period. In the whole history of that Church the main points discussed by him have been treated as at least debatable. Dr. BRIGGS could not be condemned for heresy consistently without extending the condemnation to a whole Anglican school, in which occupants of the episcopal bench are conspicuous. In this country the expression of such views may not be so frequent and so frank as it is in England, but the school holding them here is actually large, and it also includes

Bishops of the Church. Bishop GREER, who will have special charge of episcopal administration and supervision on the island of Manhattan, is tolerant of all the schools represented in the Episcopal Church here. It may be assumed that he will not interfere with the Ritualists, for instance, nor attempt in any way to curb their "excesses" in doctrine or in practice, and that he will

field for itself it is the part of practical wisdom to refrain from attempts to re-

strain the fullest liberty of any other. The Episcopal Church in the diocese of New York is now more prosperous and more powerful than ever before, and nothing could be more damaging to its prospects of still greater growth than the stirring up of such a controversy as would be aroused by the presentment and trial of Dr. Briggs because of his opinions on questions in dispute among both clergy and laity.

It is reported that the Rev. Mr. FIL-LINGHAM, the English vicar whose specialty is violent aversion to Ritualism, is about to return to New York to renew his assaults on it here. If he comes he is not likely to be received more cordially by Bishop GREER than he was treated by Bishop POTTER on his previous visit. However it may be in Hitchin, the English home of the iconoclastic vicar, in New York Ritualism is not a burning question, no matter how great may be the extremes to which it goes and how audacious its assertion of doctrine with which neither Bishop POTTER nor Bishop GREER has the least sympathy.

Senator Foraker was most unfortunate in not grasping what amendments are really needed and in introducing his measure at a time when any modification in the law is bound to be accepted by the people in the light of a surrender, no matter how erroneous such as online may be __Button

And yet Senator FORAKER has been regarded, with some degree of reason, as one of the smartest politicians between the two oceans and a past master in the art of grasping the significance of things and of choosing the right time for letting go his grasp on things, including amendments.

THE WAR SITUATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: On Jan. 22 the London Times published a despatch from its Pekin correspondent giving the total Russian force east of Lake Baikal at 3,115 officers, 147,479 men and 266 guns. Nothing, however, was said of the authority on which this statement was based. Now, apart from any reenforcements that have been sent out from European Russia and the military disfive months, the aggregate strength of the army in Eastern Siberia and Manchuria, now that it is placed on a war footing should. according to a French statement drawn from official sources, be at least 50,000 greater than that given out from Pekin as above.

In addition to the reenforcements that have been despatched from Russia since the beginning of September, when the situation had become decidedly acute, the Russians have lately been recruiting a large body of Mongol horsemen under Russian officers. who are being trained to fight Boer fashion. These are separate from the plastonni, that is, local and native levies of companies and battalions destined to cover the advance or retreat and flanks of an army in the field. Associated with these are the okhotniki, groups of sixty-four men, selected for their of infantry, for specially arduous and risky What has now to be watched is the action

of the Chinese Government. There is a suspicious look in the latest reports of Chinese military preparations and movements. A large Chinese force with a strong Japanese backbone acting against the Russian right on the Mukden-Newchwang line would seriously complicate matters for the Russians and it is quite likely that the Port Arthur squadron will have as its principal task the intercepting of a Japanese convoy of troops

going to form that backbone. The cooperation of the Chinese with the Japanese would have, however, a political as well as a military aspect, that would probably bring other Powers on the scene to intervene either to confine the war to the two actual disputants or prevent it altogether by a general diplomatic agreement.

Men and Women and the Suffrage.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The idea. several times expressed by you, that if women unite in demanding the suffrage they would get it forthwith, ought to be helpful to the cause, for by con generosity, but the intelligence of the women is at fault, they will be the better prepared to grant the privilege when the unity in asking comes. For some reason many women have a vague notion that the woman suffrage organization is a sort of "anti-man" club. Witness the article by Annie Nathan Meyer in the North American Review of January, and many jokes in the funny column of newspapers. Your view that their brothers fathers &c. are only begging and imploring them

A New England newspaper, giving a woman work among the women much more than they do. But how are they to do it? Few women are in any organization where the subject can be brought be fore them. The suffragists work wherever they granges, churches, trades unions, &c., but how can the uitra-conservative anti-suffragists be reached? There is no common life in which to meet these women.

It is easy for the anti-suffragists to gather members, for their sentiment has always existed hi in both men and women, while the suffragists have to build up theirs. The antis simply appeal to deep-rooted and long-existing prejudices, while the suffragists must combat these prejudices and arouse women from their selfish apathy to the interests of all the citizens hurt by the disfranchise nent of half of them, women. ELLEN JAMESON NEW YORK, Feb. 4.

Licenses for Architects and Certificates for Buildings.

From the Architects and Builders' Magazine One correspondent of THE SUN raises the question, Should not architects and engineers be li-censed like physicians and held responsible for their buildings? Another refers to the case of steam vessels where they "are required to show a certificate that they are built and fitted up acrding to law." Why should not all buildings and alterations and additions to buildings come under similar rules?

In regard to the points raised by these two correspondents, we would say in Illinois architects are icensed, but this does not prevent buildings being occupied by owners before they are completely finished. The custom which prevails regarding steam vessels if applied to theatres and as rooms would have held over the use of this buildng until it was finished and the fire escapes would have had ladders, the skylight over the stage been in working order, and perhaps the curtain; but the exits might still have been locked

Literary Note From Indiana.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Much mention has been made of John Luther Long's writing it true that the Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady keeps two callgraphs busy, working one with his hands and the other on the floor with his feet? It might be well to remark that in Indiana it is still quality and not quantity that counts and that the Hon. James Byron Elmore writes all of his verse by hand. He disdains the use of a typewriter. Hands and brain work harmoniously without the adventitious and artificial assistance of machinery. Mr. Elmore uses only the heaviest inen paper, a stub pen and violet ink.

J. Wallace Simcore, D. D. S. ARBA, Ind., Feb. 4.

A Curious Computation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: Howeve possible it may seem, it is nevertheless a fact that there are more dollars represented in the securities both bonds and stock, of the United States Steel Corporation than minutes since the birth of Christ. The total capitalization of the Steel Trust (both bonds and stock) is \$1,528,000,000, and the total number of minutes (to Feb. 5, 1904.) since the be-ginning of Christendom, is 1,000,784,240, or over ne dollar a minute.

If this amount was coined in United States silver dollars and placed edge to edge it would belt the earth, and then have some 11,000 miles to spare. NEW YORK, Feb. 5.

THE EDEN AT THE NORTH POLE. Letter From an Admirer of Dr. Warren's

Semi-Mystical Treatise. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In your issue of Jan. 31, appeared an article entitled "Did Life Originate in the Polar Regions?" in which occurs this statement: "These deductions are by no means new, but they have never before been fortified in one composition by so large an array of testimony as that which Mr. Wieland has collected in his careful paper.

I do not know, at this writing, how large the array of testimony is which the learned gentleman from Yale has collected, but the limits of a single paper would hardly seem to allow him arger latitude than a book of 500 pages such as Dr. William F. Warren, president of Boston University, published upon the subject in 1885. Dr. Warren is the father of the theory, and hould not be overlooked when it is discussed His learned work, entitled "Paradise Found Pole-a Study of the Prehistoric World, was dedicated by permission to Prof. Max Müller, and published by Houghton, Miffin & Co. The copy in my possession is the third edition, and has an added historic interest because I loaned it to members of the Peary Arctic Expedition of 1896, with a request that it be read up in the silent north. It came back to me with this inscription: "This copy of 'Paradise Found' was read and carried to Smith's Sound, latitude 78 degs. 24 mts. north, on the steamship Hope, Sixth Peary Expedition of 1896. Albert Operti, Arctic historical painter."

Expedition of 1896. Albert Operu, Arcuchistorical painter."

I have not heard anything of late years from Dr. Warren on the fascinating problem and its solution as given in his book, but as early as March 10, 1884, he addressed a meeting of the Boston Evangelical Alliance upon it, and subsequently he made other addresses, in various parts of the country, if I remember aright. His time, however, was nearly all taken up by his duties as the head of Boston University, so that he was obliged to use his summer vacations in the preparation of his book.

taken up by his duties as the head of Boston University, so that he was obliged to use his summer vacations in the preparation of his book.

To this volume I hope many new students of the distribution of life over the surface of the earth may be attracted by The Sun. An idea of its scope may be conveyed when I state that it discusses nearly four hundred subjects intimately associated with the great question, and that in his array of evidence Dr. Warren quotes or mentions over five hundred authors. He not only presents the evidence in support of his theory to be found in geology and geological research, but in geogony, astronomical geography, prehistoric climatology, palæontological botany, zoology, anthropology and ethnology. He traces the idea of the cradle of the human race in the thought of ancient Japan and China; in East Aryan or Hindoo thought; in old Persian, Akkadian, Assyrian, Babylonian, Egyptian and Greek thought. He treats of the Eden stars, the Eden day, the Eden zenith, the navel of the earth, the quadrifurcate river, the central tree and a host of other hitherto obscure things which his theory makes as clear as the light of day.

He adjusts and interprets a great variety of ancient cosmological and geographical notions never before understood by modern scholars. He explains for the first time, for example, the significance of the Chinvat Bridge. He indicates for the first time the polocentric character common to the mythical systems of sacred geography among all ancient peoples. He throws new light on such questions as those relating to the directions of the Sacred Quarter, the location of the Abode of the Dead, the character and position of the "navels" of earth and heaven. The fresh contributions toward a right understanding of Homeric cosmology are also highly valuable.

Hans Christian Andersen, in one of his fairy tales, says: "Once upon a time there was a King's son. Nobody had so many and beautiful books as he. Everything that had ever happened in this world he could read therein, but as to

therein, but as to where the Garden of Para-dise was to be found, about this there was not a single word in his books; and this, just this, is what he thought about the most." To all waiting and yearning king's sons I commend Dr. Warren's book. WILLIAM MILL BUTLER. ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 4.

The Mercantile Flect of Japan.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In 1892 he Japanese mercantile fleet was the thiren years later it occupied eighth place, and is rapidly reaching the seventh. The Japanese navy now ranks seventh among the navies

It will be noticed that this growth received its chief impetus from the Chino-Japanese war of 1894-95. Nearly all the higher officers are foreigners.

This record of a more than quadruple growth in ten years is of peculiar interest at this time of complications between Russia and Japan.

SCHENECTADY, Feb. 4.

Capt. O'Brien and Ariosto Wiley.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Purely in the interests of historical accuracy I beg leave to say that an editorial in THE SUN of Jan. 31, in not a few of its statements, is at variance with the "Life of me and published nearly two years since, a copy f which was sent to your literary editor for review am willing to leave it entirely to your judgment to conclude whether the "Life of Capt. Jeremiah O'Brien, of Machias, Me.," above mentioned, is reliable or not, with regard, particularly, to the points concerning which THE SUN editorial and the ANDREW M. SHERMAN MORRISTOWN, N. J., Feb. 5.

We don't doubt the trustworthiness of Mr. Sherman's book. The editorial article in question gave the views of the Hon. Ariosto Wiley, M. C., of Alabama, as to Capt O'Brien. Mr. Wiley is the man who needs to be corrected and enlightened. His errors were set down at length in a letter printed in THE SUN of Feb. 5.

The Expulsions From Princeton. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I notice it

your columns that five Princeton students have small affair of obtaining knowledge of an examina tion beforehand. I don't blame the faculty for punishing the students, because the conduct was not keeping within the "honor system"; but I think least. Suspension for a short period, it seems to me, would be more appropriate for this sad mis-fortune than the dread punishment of expulsion. The boys carelessly forget themselves in their greedy attempt (which is very youthful) to pass handsomely, but I think that on reflection a consensus of opinion of the graduates (the power in not be for the term of expulsion. I trust that some arrangement can be made with

the faculty not to make a final decision that will cloud the future of these five thoughtless youths, but to give them one more chance to prove that they can be men and a credit to Princeton Uni A GRADUATE. NEW YORK, Feb. 5.

The Massachusetts Gas Law. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I have seen

munications you have published suggesting remedies for the poor gas now being supplied in New York to the Massachusetts law for regulating the quality and purity of gas distributed by companies operating in that State. A commission has charge of tests concerning the purity and candle power of the gas and makes tests all over the State at definite intervals. There are also other provisions in this law which bring the companies ore or less under the supervision of the State. think it would be well worth the while of our awmakers to look into this law with a view to adopting it in whole or in part for the regulation of the gas business, not only in New York, but through-ILLUMINATION. ASHEVILLE, N. C., Feb. 3.

When Our Ships Come Home We freight them deep with joyous hopes And then impatiently we wait

To see our ships come home. Some founder in the raging storm. Some make a quick and rich return

While some sail on for years. And when at last they creep to pert With battered hull and spar

The customs that we have to pay

Exceed our profits far. MCLANDBURGH WILSON

INVESTIGATE MORMON CHURCH.

ope of the Inquiry Into Smoot's Right to a Seat in the Senate. WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 .- A general and horough investigation of the relations of the Mormon Church with the State and Federal Governments was determined upon

by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections at its meeting to-day. The hearing of witnesses will begin on March 1 and may last several months. Twenty witnesses have already been ummoned by the counsel for the Utah Gentiles, who have preferred charges against the right of Reed Smoot to a seat in the Senate, and others will be added as fast as needed. Smoot has not yet sub-

mitted a list of witnesses and will probably

await the nature of the testimony against him before doing so.

The committee has practically dropped the charge of polygamy against Smoot and will conduct the investigation on the general charge that the practice and teachings of the Mormon Church encourage polygamy in violation of the laws of the land.

land.

The committee will inquire particularly as to the authority of the Mormon priesthood over the temporal affairs of its members, especially politically, and as to whether the oath taken by the apostles and the high rulers of the Church, of which Smoot is one, interferes with the free exercise of the office of Senator. Also whether the Church still adheres to its former teachings and practices of polygamy, whether plural marriages are still performed, and whether Smoot, a high official in the Church councils, connives and encourages the performance connives and encourages the performance of plural marriages in defiance of his oath to support the laws of the United States, including those forbidding polygamy.

CITY PROBLEMS UNDER LOW.

Some City Department Heads to Tell Over Again What They Did With 'Em.

Heads of city departments in the last administration will be the speakers in a series of free lectures to be given in Earl Hall, Columbia University, every Friday, starting Feb. 26. These talks under the general head of the "Problems of Municipal Administration," are nine in number and were arranged in cooperation with the Academy of Political Science. Just how far they are to be in the nature of apologies the prospectus does not say. The dates and names are:

Feb. 28.—"The Dock Department" (illustrated), McDougall Hawkes.
March 4.—"The Street Cleaning Department" (illustrated), Dr. John McGaw Woodbury.
March 11.—"The Police Department," Gen.

Francis V. Greene.
March 18.—"The Fire Department," Thomas

March 18.—"The Fire Department, Industry R. Sturgis.
March 25.—"The Board of Education," C. C. Burlingham.
April 8.—"The Tenement House Department," Robert W. DeForest.
April 15.—"The Health Department" (Illustrated), Dr. Ernst J. Lederle,
April 22.—"Bellevue and Allied Hospitals,"
Dr. John W. Brannan.

PURLIC OWNERSHIP RILL. Hoboken Common Council Wants to Seize

the Trolley Railroads. Corporation Attorney James F. Minturn of Hoboken, acting under instructions of the Common Council, has drafted a bill for presentation to the Legislature tomorrow "to enable cities to purchase, condemn and operate existing street railways." It provides for the appointment by the Circuit Court of three commissioners who shall have power to hear testimony as to the value of the railway property, con-

demn the same and fix the price which the city shall pay. The management of the trolley lines under municipal ownership is to be vested in two railroad commissioners appointed by the Mayor. They are to operate the cars under regulations prescribed by the Common

The fare for a continuous trolley ride to any part of the city on city owned lines of connecting lines is to be three cents.

The Sort of Teaching Needed in the Public

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIF: The practic of continually changing class books—and getting royalties for them—is one of the many sides of our most extraordinary "school system." I would make a suggestion: Let the school authorities unearth some of the old class books which were used in the early '50s of last century. In them will be found simple and easily understood methods of instruction which the teacher can explain lucidly and logically. This would be a great benefit to both teac

Another great improvement I would suggest would be the complete elimination of useless fades such as physical culture, drawing from life, music &c. I heard of one case where a small boy was perched upon a table posing as a model, while a class of fifty children were doing their bes his beautiful proportions, this during school hours, Now, my idea is that making artists and musi

cians is out of place in the simple curriculum of common school education. If instead of the new frills a little instruction was given the girls in cookery, so that fried steaks, watery soup and undercooked vegetables would be an unknown experience in a poor workman's house

of housekeeping, it would be much more to the ourpose than these absurd "fads." I am confident that a great deal of the drinking habit of the ordinary laborer is the result of the miserable cookery of his wife. Therefore, if re laxation for the children during school hours is sought, let a cookery class be established. That would be of actual benefit, besides serving the pur-pose of a little rest from books, thought to be so necessary at the present day.

hold, if they could be taught a few simple rules

Our much vaunted "school system" is one of the most important problems now with us-it is the future of America. Our universal free education is a glorious thing, for which we may be just proud; but let it be real, honest educati it help the young in their coming life, and the geniuses who may be found in the common schools will find their way to cultivate their extra talents when they leave, and will all the better succeed if they have been thoroughly taught reading writing, spelling and arithmetic ISABEL BENTLEY

Are Pensions the Root of All Graft? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: What grafters

we Americans have become; and yet it is not sur prising when one thinks that the greatest graft of all is encouraged and fostered by a generous and noble public sentiment, aided by the wily politicians of recent time. If the truth were known t might not be amiss to say that the love of graft generally and the indifference to it as a crime hav come about through this great graft of which I speak-the pensions. No loyal, patriotic American citizen can for one

moment object to a liberal, even lavish, distribution of public funds to those who were injured in the civil war or who may have left any dependen claim the right and privilege, together with all other citizens of this great country, to cherish and reverently hold sacred the memories of the heroes of 1861-65 who are dead, and by voice vote and act to aid by political encouragement and public funds the well loved heroes of that great struggle who still live and may claim the truits of their worthy, gallant deeds. There can be no praise too high for those who

ought, bled and died that their country might live There is no tale in all history more inspiring and glorious than the noble human sacrifice made in the civil war when the great American family of brothers were fighting for their principles. It was a victory dearly bought, but to-day the brothers are united.

I don't believe in pensions for those who gos

theumatism from wet trousers at the first be three months service at parade rest. We will all have to be born veterans after awhile to get our dues. The boys in blue fought for principles. not pensions. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1.

B Wins.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A beta B that nothing more amusing has happened in New York for a long time than the placing of policemen by Commissioner McAdoo on the elevated stat an object lesson to the Interborough Rapid Transit

that way. to find out is acting in it all the s

JEROME

M'CLELL

He WIH GI

ING

Where

Skips-

District

view since

turned out

present cit

far. He pr

ing that y

office, he

sources of

on the gen

gards gaml

my," he sa

take this

mination t

value. I a

aid I know l

to play pet

to entrap

influence a

better-

"From t

I am satisf

being a wid

I say appl

York, for

kept the to

than Comm

administra

Mr. Jerom

Did this

No. I ca

"Aren't y

the police? "No mor under Com said Mr. J I say that ports of mi up, I do no eliminated mean that tightly as tighter the months of istration. came to me couldn't ke said that from them and asked i Comn issio transferred All in al open than i little to be o weed when Mr. Jero the develop

hurst migh

to think, is

of brimsto

sedate sort The first

know of Mi yesterday at

off his mus that he had

falo-moths

xplained t in a coundropped do porter, "the Judge, tha disguise you here in the Mexico cer there. He He said th Chicago to Deming, N Kent, who railroad Thomas Ly by a pack t

of their w there was Charley Ly There were The object the huntin breathing of the duc they need deer was like themse the laws of There wer out of the believe th up and mo ton-tails a learned to After leand Mr. divide wi heir way

back to the several date and in the Mr. Jercesting parting people ands of c one cowb why, he tory. He tory. He his life. elieve it' ever stole Mr. Jero Three of the with a suite smoked or smoked ou with their eral chunk regretted territory I fore his a

Mr. Jero him heaps felt so wel He was to his advice use their to oners had smoke in t day I left York news and other know wha did say wa that tough were runn pistols, si sort of the

The N

thugs and while they would this